

April 14, 1978

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, and members of the Legislature, I would have to rise in opposition to Senator Lewis' motion. I understand the reason for it and I agree with much of what he has said. However, Senator Koch and Senator Chambers have outlined there are better reasons for advancing this bill than there are for sending it back to remove the enacting clause. Some members of this body I'm sure agree unanimously that the bill is on the board today is being enacted not for those of us who are here today but for those in the years to come who will come before this body. I'm always amazed at the fact that the press can find the picayunish things to write about. It's amazing also to me that they never report the fact that members of this body begin work early in the morning and work until the long hours of the night, the meetings they attend, many of the responsibilities they attend, the facts that our homes are public places for everyone, everyone who wishes to come and we invite them to be there, but that's their responsibility and they do it as they see fit. It's our choice to be here and having chosen to be here we place ourselves in the public spotlight in the goldfish bowl and those of us who are here can take the heat and we enjoy it. We relish it and we perhaps do well under it. I think the time will come and it's interesting to me that in many instances the people who vote against a pay raise are the ones who vote in effect, to keep themselves from serving in this body because unless the time comes when the salary is increased, only the very rich will be able to serve in the legislative body and it will no longer be a representative body so I would have to ask you to vote against Senator Lewis' motion.

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: The Chair recognizes Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, only to say to Senator Frank Lewis, if you think you've got problems with the Star come join me.

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: All right. Senator Simon. Senator Simon asks for the question. Do I see five hands? I do. All those in favor of ceasing debate vote aye. Opposed nay. The question is, shall debate cease. Record the vote.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: Debate ceases. The Chair recognizes Senator Frank Lewis.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: Mr. President, I'm going to be brief. I know we've got a lot of business today but I think this is a substantive issue, at least it is with me and certainly it isn't based on vindictiveness with one newspaper or one editorial. I can forgive that kind of thing, Senator Koch, because we know we have people that can't do things in all businesses and the newspaper business is like some of the others I've been involved in. You've got 2 or 3% that can't handle it and unfortunately they get to put things in the paper every once in a while, so that's not the issue. The issue and I want to make it very clear, this Legislature is not conniving to determine ways they can raise the salary and this legislator certainly isn't. We're not griping about the job. We like the job. I enjoy it. I'd